

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org

"The Voice of the Community"

North Street Community Garden celebrates second season

Marilyn McGriff
Special to the Forum

For the second year in a row, the vacant lot owned by the city of St. Paul on North Street is being transformed into a community garden. After last year's successful start, more raised beds have been added to accommodate more gardeners.

On Friday, May 4, a crew arrived at the garden site to begin the expansion work. Sixteen volunteers, all employees from Allianz, worked throughout the day as part of the company's support of community projects. Not only did Allianz provide the muscle power for the day, the company provided sponsorship dollars to Twin Cities Rebuilding Together.

Tony Sjogren from that program was again on hand with the lumber, power tools and supplies, in addition to serving as coordinator for the day, supervising the volunteers and offering encouragement.

Among the refreshments offered to the crew were watermelon slices provided by the Cambric apartment manager, Jessica Garcia.

Rebuilding Together has worked closely with Milan Mockovak, a Cambric resident who generated the idea for the garden initially. Included in this year's plan is a compost bin, and Milan would like to see a garden shed as well as some picnic tables.

August Hoffman, a psychology professor at Metro State University stopped by to observe the progress. His students will help maintain the garden throughout the summer as one of their community improvement projects.



Jane Prince

Allianz volunteers built additional raised beds in the North Street garden space.

Another successful year for the Minneapolis & St. Paul Home Tour

Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

Hundreds of people toured eight homes in Dayton's Bluff on April 28 and 29. Visitors included Dayton's Bluff residents as well as people from all over the Metro area and beyond. Many visitors come back to Dayton's Bluff every year to see the great homes and visit with the wonderful residents of this neighborhood.

The tour featured a variety of house sizes and styles. Visitors admired beautiful woodwork, large-scale home restorations, and modern kitchens, among other new and period features.

Two of the beautiful homes were 1115 McLean (a brand new house built by Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services) and 737 East 5th Street, which was completely rehabbed by the current owner; both homes are for sale.

Two formerly vacant buildings were on the tour this year: 689 Conway, which was completely rehabilitated by Historic Saint Paul, and the old Railing Shop was purchased after last year's tour and is in the process of being total-

ly renovated into a unique home for the new owners.

A three room house with a wonderful garden yard was featured with its cozy and functional living space. Another beautiful home is also an Airbnb, where the owner regularly welcomes visitors to enjoy the best of the Bluff.

The house on Beech Street featured on the tour is a wonderful family home which recently brought a very nice new family to Dayton's Bluff.

Last, but not least is the beautiful Georgian Revival home built in 1912, designed by Thomas Holyoke, a well-respected local architect.

At the end of the tour an "After the Home Tour" party for the homeowners and home tour volunteers was held at the Cambric apartment building. Everyone was able to relax and enjoy good conversation and food. Many people are looking forward to next year's Home Tour.

Thirty-eight volunteers helped make the tour run smoothly; thanks go out to those volunteers – most whom help year after year – and to the home owners who opened their homes for the tour. A special thank you to the Cambric for hosting the After the Home Tour party. Another hearty thanks goes out for the delicious food donated by Yarusso Brother's, Ward 6, Obb's Sport Bar and Grill, Culver's, and Magnolias. See you on next year's tour!

Karin DuPaul can be reached at karindupaul@comcast.net.

9th Annual Art in the Hollow

Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

On June 2, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., come down into Swede Hollow Park to discover a deeper beauty and find art at its roots. The main entrance to Art in the Hollow is the Drewry Tunnel located on Beaumont Street, one block south from Payne and East Minnehaha Avenues (behind Hope Community Academy). The TAP, a local social organization and its literary club, Urban Journal will be hosting space for performers at the East 7th Street Improvement Arches (near Payne Avenue).

Swede Hollow was one of the first neighborhoods in St. Paul's immigrant history. Now a city park, it will be ready for spring blooming in June

with Art in the Hollow artists, performers, and a public sculpture contest. The tradition of nurturing and showcasing local talent continues with performances, demonstrations, sales, and "plein air" artists creating art in the park, representing past and current cultural communities.

Artistic media runs the gamut from sculptors and weavers to glassblowers and photographers. There are two stages full of talent this year, the main stage - same as past years, and a new stage at the Historic East 7th Street Improvement Arches.

The day will be filled with Native dancers, Italian accordionists, Mexican Mariachis, Swedish music, African-American Rhythm 'n Blues, American Bluegrass music, spoken word, and more. Food trucks and an eating area will be near the main entrance. Space remains for artists, performers, and sculptors. Visit www.artinthehollow.org or [facebook.com/artinthehollow](https://www.facebook.com/artinthehollow). For more information contact Karin at karindupaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550.

Pictured at right are Higher Ground Academy Students who helped to clean up Swede Hollow Park on May 4, 2018.

180 students came on three school buses and worked for nearly two hours cleaning up Swede Hollow. Nice work, students!

Photo by Karin DuPaul.



Dayton's Bluff
Community Council
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Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike

On the second Saturday of most months, the Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike will begin at Indian Mounds Park, located at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard, at **10:30 a.m.** The next hike will be on **Saturday, June 9.** The hike is approximately one and a half to two hours long and will end at Swede Hollow Park or East Side Heritage Park, depending on the desire of the hikers. Share and learn a little history along the way! Email karindupaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550 for more information.

Friends of Swede Hollow

Watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Join the Swede Hollow community at their monthly meeting on **Thursday, June 7, at 6:30 p.m.** Please note that meetings are now on Thursdays. Email karin@swedehollow.org or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting's location.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum Board Meeting

The Forum is seeking help with writing, online content, idea generation, and ad sales – join us at our next meeting on **Wednesday, June 6, at 1:00 p.m.,** at Swede Hollow Cafe at 725 E. 7th Street. Call 651-776-0550 or email daytons-bluffdistrictforum@gmail.com for more information.

Police Community Meetings

The Eastern District Saint Paul Police will host their monthly meetings for community members at the Eastern District Police Office at 722 Payne Avenue, on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues.

The next meetings are on **Wednesday, June 20, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.** Meetings are intended as a time to listen to and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

SNAP Food Program at CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio)

¿Necesita más comida saludable para la familia? El programa SNAP le puede ayudar. SNAP proporciona fondos para alimentos que benefician a familias de escasos recursos.

Aún si no es ciudadano, si tiene hijos nacidos en este país ellos podrían calificar. Participar en el programa SNAP no afectará su estatus migratorio.

¡Llame a CLUES para saber si califica! 612-746-3500. Nuestro personal bilingüe puede facilitar el proceso para usted y su familia.

Need healthy food for your family? The SNAP program provides funds for low-income families to buy food. Even if you are not a citizen, your children born in this country could qualify. Participation in the SNAP program won't affect their immigration status.

Call CLUES to find out if you qualify at 612-746-3500. Our bilingual staff can facilitate the process for your family.

Twin Cities Mobile Market

The Twin Cities Mobile Market is a grocery store on wheels that brings affordable, healthy food directly into under-resourced neighborhoods. The Mobile Market stops at Parkway Gardens Apartments, located at 1145 Hudson Road, on **Wednesdays, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**



Friday, Saturday, Sunday, June 1-3: *Circus Splendor* presented by 2 Defy Gravity. *Circus Splendor* is a performance combining the art of contemporary circus with other art forms to push the boundaries of circus today. This all-ages cabaret-style show will feature innovative and exciting pieces choreographed and performed by local circus artists. Join us and be inspired by the strength and power of these amazing performers! **June 1 and 2 at 7:30 p.m., June 3 at 2:00 p.m.** Presale tickets \$25 adults/\$15 kids 12 and under or \$30/\$20 at the door.

Saturday, June 9: *Midwest All-Star Wrestling (MAW)* brings live pro wrestling to the Historic Mounds Theatre. **Doors open at 5:45 p.m. (VIP), 6 p.m. (General admission), bell time 7 p.m.** Tickets: General admission (in advance): \$9 adults, \$7 kids; General admission (at the door): \$12 adults, \$8 kids; VIP preferred seating (in advance): \$12 adults, \$8 kids; VIP preferred seating (at the door): \$15 adults, \$10 kids.

Saturday & Sunday, June 16 & 17: Clean-Up Days 2018. The Mounds Theatre is a big building and our volunteer staff can use help getting to all the random jobs that pile up during the year. Over the weekend we'll fix things and sort things and clean things. Wear clothes that can get dirty and stay as long as you are able! FREE!!!

Visit moundstheatre.org for information on upcoming events as it becomes available. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com.

June at the Dayton's Bluff Library

The following events will be held at the Dayton's Bluff library, 645 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul:

On Weekdays, beginning June 11, **from 2:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.,** Dayton's Bluff Library will offer *Snack in the Zone*. Happy Summer Break, students!

Saturdays, June 12, 9, 16, 22, and 30, from noon to 2:00 p.m., *Maker Space in the FunZONE!* Play computer games like Minecraft, and enjoy other hands-on fun in the Zone.

Tuesday, June 12, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., *Teens Know Best!* Teens have exclusive access to books before they are published. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month to share opinions and pizza. *Teens Know Best* members are expected to write reviews of the books they read. The reviews are submitted directly to the publishers to help guide their decisions. New members can register at the meeting. Call 651-632-3873 for more information.

Summer Movies at the Library - It's back! Dayton's Bluff Library and Met-

ropolitan State University Library are again co-hosting the popular children's Summer Movie series every **Friday at the library from 1:00 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

It all begins on **Friday, June 22,** with *Coco*, and continues the following **Friday, June 29,** with *The Borrowers* (the 1997 version with John Goodman!)

Come for the movie, stay for the snack! Dayton's Bluff Library is also providing *Snack in the Zone* for children 18 and younger, weekdays beginning June 11 and continuing through the summer.

All movies will be shown on the first floor of the library, located at 645 East 7th Street, Saint Paul.

Did you know that you can check out board games at the library? Library visitors can play the games in the library or check them out for two weeks. The full list of games can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/MetroGames> and all are available to the public.

For information about these and other events check spp.org or call 651-793-1699. The Dayton's Bluff Library shares its home with Metropolitan State University at 645 East 7th Street.

June at the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center

Mobile Jazz: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Saturdays from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.. Free, ages 12-17 welcome. **Begins June 2.**

Judo: Mondays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.. Free, ages 6-17 welcome. **Begins June 11.**

Hip Hop at the Bluff: Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Free, ages 8-18 welcome. **Begins June 12.**

Basketball Skills: Tuesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Free, ages 6-12 welcome. **Begins June 12.**

Jewelry Making: Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Free, ages 8 and older welcome. **Begins June 13.**

Latin Dance: Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Free, ages 8 and older welcome. **Begins June 14.**

Sewing for Kids: Mondays, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Free, ages 12-18 welcome. **Begins June 18.**

Summer Blast: Daily, Monday-Thursday, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Free, ages 6-12 welcome. **Begins June 18.**

Young Men's Group: Wednesdays, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Free, ages 11-15 welcome. **Begins June 19.**

Toddler Sports: Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Free, ages 4-6 welcome. **Begins June 21.**

Tae Kwon Do: Thursdays, 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.. Free, ages 8-18 welcome. **Begins June 21.**

Open Gym: Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Free, all ages welcome. **Ongoing.**

Teen Open Gym: Thursdays, 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Free, ages 14-18 welcome. **Ongoing.**

To register for any of these activities, please call the Rec Center at 651-793-3885. All activities take place at the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center, located at 800 Conway Street, St. Paul.

June at the East Side Freedom Library

Are you interested in collaborating with the ESFL on events, media, and community engagement? Please join us

by participating and taking leadership in any of the following projects: Event promotion and evaluation, media and communications, and community engagement.

For more information, please attend our collaboration sessions. Meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of every month. In these meetings, we will discuss upcoming events, the library's mission and goals, and explore your own ideas about community programming.

All events listed here take place at the East Side Freedom Library, are free, and open to all. The East Side Freedom Library is located at 1150 Greenbrier Street. Call 651-230-3294, email info@eastsidefreedomlibrary.org, or visit eastsidefreedomlibrary.org for details on these and other upcoming events as they become available.

Business Classes

The Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur class helps startup and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. Class training lasts 12 weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, and developing a business plan, plus eight hours of one-on-one assistance with creating and preparing a business plan.

Those who successfully complete the course are eligible for ongoing business support services (they don't have to locate their business in target neighborhoods to be eligible).

The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding scale. Class size is limited, so sign up now. Please call the training department at 651-379-8113.

Let your voice be heard!

Contact WEQY 104.7 FM, St. Paul East Side's community reporter Cearah Hamilton of The Eastside Vibe if you have valuable resources you want to get out to the community, would like her to cover your event, or interview your organization! Cearah Hamilton can be reached at cearah@weqy.org.

Wish List Care Packages

Did you know that you can help East Side Elders distribute food, hygiene items, and more to seniors on the East Side by shopping our Amazon Wish List? Visit www.amazon.com/registry/wishlist/3KK001OGFO5NJ.

You can have these much-needed items sent right to our office. From there, our team of volunteers will distribute them to seniors in need. Help us make a bigger impact and shop our wish list today!

The Smilin' Cowboys

Popular Twin Cities party band, *The Smilin' Cowboys*, will perform at the Minnesota Music Café, located at 500 Payne Avenue on the **second Thursday** of each month. **Music begins at 8:00 p.m.**

Mounds Park United Methodist Church

1049 Euclid Street (corner of Earl and Euclid); 651-774-8736

Mounds Park United Methodist on Facebook

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is a multicultural, intergenerational neighborhood congregation located at 1049 Euclid Street in Dayton's Bluff. Sunday worship begins at 10:30 a.m.

Sundays: Multi-Generational Sunday School Class. Class meets every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the lounge of the church. This class follows an adult curriculum and has a participant age range of 80 years! Youth start in worship at 10:30 a.m. Following kid's time, children aged 0-4 years go to the staffed nursery, grades K-5 go to the upstairs Sunday School room, and children grades 6-12 go downstairs for classes. Breakfast is served during Sunday School. The nursery is staffed for those children aged 0-4 years who do not want to start in worship. Please call the church with any questions.

Mississippi Market Presents: Eat More Plants Event Series

Incorporate more plants into your daily life and diet

Matt Frank
Mississippi Market

Mississippi Market, Saint Paul's premier natural foods grocer, is pleased to announce an upcoming three-part event series featuring local plant-based culinary experts, food samples, recipes, and cooking inspiration. Attendees will learn ways to incorporate more plants into their daily life and diet to promote environmental, physical, and financial health. As an added benefit, participants who attend all three events will receive a special plant-based cookbook and co-op gift bag. The Eat More Plants event series kicks-off in late April and runs once-a-month through June at the co-op's East 7th store. Each event in the series is free to attend; a \$5.00 registration fee is required per event, which will be reimbursed as a \$5.00 co-op voucher. Registration is open now and may be completed in-store at Customer Service, or online at www.msmarket.coop/eat-more-plants.

Eat More Plants: Easy Recipes with J.

Selby's, Wednesday, June 20, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the East 7th store. Join Chef Nathan from local eatery J. Selby's for an inspiring evening culminating in delicious samples of two flavorful plant-based meals from their menu.

From seasoned plant-based pros to those just beginning their local plant-based food journey, everyone is sure to learn and taste something new at Mississippi Market's Eat More Plants event series!



About Mississippi Market Natural Foods Co-op: Mississippi Market Natural Foods Co-op has been offering local, organic food at a fair price to our St. Paul neighbors for nearly 40 years. As a consumer-owned grocery store, Mississippi Market provides high-quality, fair-priced goods and services, and works toward a sustainable local economy and global environment. Learn more at www.msmarket.coop.

Free help for East Side pets

Temperance Brennan
Forum Contributor

The Animal Humane Society's Community Outreach program has special indoor and outdoor clinics for pets of low income families on the East Side as well as Frogtown. The events

offer all the same resources and care as the outdoor clinics — free wellness exams, vaccines, nail trims, spay/neuter appointment scheduling, guidance from the AHS behavior team and St. Paul Animal Control, free pet food, and more.

For information on upcoming events and locations call 651-788-4685 or visit <http://animalhumanesociety.org/outreach-services-frogtown-and-east-st-paul>.

Temperance Brennan can be reached at daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

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Elder Café

It's Time to Talk.. About end of life



Thursday, June 14, 2018
12:00 Noon – 2:00 PM
463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul MN 55106

Join us for a candid and informative panel presentation on end of life decision making, health care directives, hospice and burial options. Representatives from four local organizations will share their knowledge and encourage us to make our own decisions and not leave them to our loved ones.

Hope you can join us for a nourishing meal and great conversation!

Call (651) 683-2326 to make a reservation*
or to request a free ride!
The cost of the event is \$5.00 per person.
Punch cards can be purchased at the door.



*We cannot guarantee a meal without a reservation.



Erica Schneekloth
Community Outreach, Owner

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Arcade-Phalen Post 577 ALR

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP SPAGHETTI FEED FUNDRAISER

The American Legion's Legacy Scholarship Fund provides college scholarship money to children of post-9/11 veterans who died on active duty, or have a combined VA disability rating of 50 percent or greater.

SUNDAY JUNE 3, 2018

\$10.00 Adults \$7.00 Children 8 and under

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Arcade-Phalen American Legion Post 577
1129 Arcade St, St Paul, MN 55106



Contest: Where in Dayton's Bluff?

Send your guess to daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com with the location of the neighborhood curiosity pictured above for a chance to win great prizes from local businesses. The reader who submits the first correct entry will be notified and the winner will be announced in the July edition of the *Forum*.



Karin DuPaul

Mississippi Market on East 7th Street hosted a Community Dinner on May 17 (pictured above). Hundreds of people attended. You can join the fun on June 28, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. (or until the food runs out!) For \$3 you will receive a bratwurst and potato salad. There will be live banjo and fiddle music as well as a raffle, budget recipe samples from East Side Table, and samples of delicious ferments from local maker, Angelica's Garden. Get there early! On July 26, \$3 gets you a pulled pork sandwich and coleslaw, live jazz, award-winning organic BBQ samples, pig farmers to chat with, and a chance to win a bicycle. On August 23, the menu includes grilled chicken and herb corn salad, live music, and a chance to win a wooden wagon. On September 27, wrap up the summer with a baked potato bar complete with assorted toppings. Hope to see you there!



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Dayton's Bluff District Forum

804 Margaret Street, St. Paul, MN 55106
Phone: 651-776-0550 E-mail: daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com

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Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Nick Duncan, Karin DuPaul, Sage Holben, Steve Trimble
Editor/layout: Jennifer Gascoigne; Associate Editor: Mark Gallagher
Next issue: July 2018. **Deadline for material: June 10, 2018.**

Tourist or Resident, Explore Saint Paul with a Walking Tour

Take a free tour from Landmark Center

Krissy Schoenfelder
Landmark Center

Visitors and curious residents are invited to explore Rice Park, St. Peter Street, or Saint Paul's riverfront with Landmark Center's Saint Paul Walking Tours. **Beginning June 13**, and continuing through September, Landmark Center tour guides will lead three different walking tours of Saint Paul. Tours are free and operate on a rotating schedule, Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

"Walking tours are nice events for both visitors and residents," said Bob Wagner, a Landmark Center volunteer and creator of the walking tours. "People tend to take their hometowns for granted, but there's always something new to learn, whether you're a lifelong resident or a tourist."

The second Wednesday of each month, beginning June 13, the Rice Park Tour departs from Landmark Center's Visitor Information Desk. The tour circles one of Saint Paul's most iconic parks, and stops in the surrounding buildings which give the park its central role in city events and celebrations.

On the third Wednesday of each

month, beginning June 20, the Heart of the City Tour departs from inside Landmark Center's North Lobby (6th Street entrance). It travels down St. Peter Street pointing out some of the most famous landmarks and influential buildings in St. Paul's history, including the Hamm Building and Mickey's Dinner.

Finally, the **Great River Tour** begins at Upper Landing Park (Shepard Road and Eagle Parkway) and walks along the mighty Mississippi. It highlights buildings and locations that helped make Saint Paul the city it is today. **It runs the fourth Wednesday of each month, beginning June 27.**

All tours are FREE, operate June through September, and begin at 10:00 a.m. Space is limited and reservations are required. For more information or to make a reservation, please call 651.292.3063 or visit www.landmarkcenter.org/visit/walkingtours.html.

About Landmark Center: Landmark Center is a dynamic, historic cultural center and central gathering place in downtown Saint Paul. It is owned and sponsored by Ramsey County and managed by Minnesota Landmarks, the nonprofit programming and management agency for the building. Landmark Center is located at 75 West 5th Street, on Rice Park and is accessible to those with impaired mobility. Parking is available on street and in nearby Lawson, Science Museum and River-Centre Ramps. For more information call 651.292.3225 or visit www.landmarkcenter.org.

Take a new look at Saint Paul

Landmark Center's summer art
exhibit focused on Saint Paul

Krissy Schoenfelder
Landmark Center

Spend some time in Landmark Center this summer and see Saint Paul through the eyes of several artists. *Saint Paul ReViewed* begins, **June 7**, with an opening reception from **5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** The summer exhibition will feature three temporary installations and several pieces from Landmark Center's permanent art collection.

"Landmark Center started showcasing visual art during the summer months in 2014," said Judy Brooks, Director of Community Programs at Landmark Center. "Last year's theme was 'community,' open to the artists' interpretation. This year, we're entirely focused on Saint Paul as the subject matter."

The *Saint Paul ReViewed* opening reception, **June 7**, launches two installations, *Our St. Paul: Celebrating 125 Years of the St. Paul Camera Club*, in the North Gallery and *Explorations - Two Artists' Views of Saint Paul* by Michelle Daniels and Brad Daniels in the second floor gallery and third floor balcony spaces. The third installation, *All About St. Paul: A City in Watercolors*, will preview during the June 7 opening reception, then officially open **July 19** in the North Gallery. This second half of **Saint Paul ReViewed** features watercolor paintings by Jeanne Kosfeld.

In addition to the temporary exhibits, several works in Landmark Center's permanent art collection will be highlighted: Bill Hosko's oil on canvas,

Daybreak in Rice Park, Anna Metcalfe's porcelain and iron, *Letters to Landmark*, and Norbert Marklin's photo mural, *St. Paul Skyline Triptych*.

Join Landmark Center for one of the following workshops offered this summer: **June 7, noon to 1:00 p.m.:** *The North Shore: What a Photo-Op! Photographing Lake Superior*, with Bob Lundquist, Saint Paul Camera Club, Courtroom 326.

June 16, 10:00 a.m. to noon: *Getting Started in Nature Photography*, with Peggy Boike, Saint Paul Camera Club, Courtroom 326.

June 23, 10:00 a.m. to noon: *Introduction to Night Sky Photography*, with Terry Butler, Saint Paul Camera Club, Courtroom 326.

June 28, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.: *St. Paul Photography Field Trip*, explore Landmark Center's neighborhood with Michelle Daniels and Brad Daniels. Space is limited to 20 participants, advance reservations are required. All camera types (DSLR, smartphone, etc.) are welcome.

August 11, 10:00 a.m. to noon, and August 19, 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.: *Sketching St. Paul - A primer lesson on sketching architecture and nature*. Space is limited to 20 guests, and reservations are required. Registered guests will meet at Landmark Center's Information Desk, and, weather permitting, move outdoors. In the event of rain, workshops will be held inside Landmark Center.

Saint Paul ReViewed runs **June 7-August 31**. The exhibits and workshops are free and open to the public, but reservations are required for Jeanne Kosfeld's *Sketching St. Paul*, and Michelle and Brad Daniels' *St. Paul Photography Field Trip*. For reservations, contact Judy Brooks, jbrooks@landmarkcenter.org or 651-292-1239. For more information visit landmarkcenter.org.

Grants cover tuition costs for all spring 2018 Urban Education student teachers

Poh Lin Khoo & Robert Boos
Metropolitan State University

Twenty-eight student teachers in the School of Urban Education (UED) at Metropolitan State University are currently placed in public schools in St. Paul, Minneapolis, and surrounding suburban areas for the spring 2018 semester.

For the first time, not a single student teacher from Metropolitan State paid tuition costs for their student teaching credits. UED Dean René Antrop-González proudly announced that through grants awarded to UED, Metropolitan State students who are fulfilling the student teaching requirement for licensure this spring semester, were awarded grant monies to cover the costs of their tuition. In many cases, UED student teachers have received enough funding to pay for tuition and a portion of their living expenses.

"Mandated, full-time unpaid labor via student teaching is based on a raced and classed model that does not honor our students' lived realities," says Dean Antrop-González. "Consequently, pre-service teachers—especially pre-service teachers of color and American Indian pre-service teachers—have either not been able to become licensed teachers or have had to unjustly sacrifice their basic needs to complete student teaching. In a strong union state like Minnesota, the perpetuation of this practice is simply not acceptable."

The student teaching requirement is typically the final step for completion and consists of 8-9 credits, depending on licensure area. The average tuition cost is \$2,104 for an undergraduate student and \$3,304 at the graduate level.

These funding sources for UED student teachers are important to help alleviate the cost for what is essentially an unpaid, full-time internship. Student teaching is an endeavor that can take 12 to 15 weeks, and presents a huge barrier for many students who are trying to become licensed teachers.

"Working full time and being a mom put stress on trying to balance everything. Having a paid student teaching internship has helped me enjoy the experience better; to not worry about how I am going to pay bills or feed my family. If I hadn't gotten this help I wouldn't be able to finish my college career," says Jennifer Delatorre, a mother of two graduating from UED. Her student teaching assignment included a ten-week placement in preschool at the Eastern Carver County Community Education program, and another five weeks at La Academia in Chaska.

Funding was made possible through collaboration by UED and Metropolitan State University Office of Development to win a grant for \$46,200 from the Graves Foundation. The Minnesota Office of Higher Education, thanks to collaborations between the *Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers in Minnesota* and the Minnesota Legislature, has also awarded grants up to \$7,500 to student teachers based on their financial need. UED was also recently awarded a legislatively funded Collaborative Urban Educator program grant of \$90,000, disbursed over the next two years, to be used to cover student teaching-related expenses. Finally, in collaboration with the Metropolitan State University Office

of Development, UED also awards over \$30,000 annually to support its student teachers.

"I decided to become a teacher when I started working in a middle school after-school program. In this job I noticed how important teachers were in a student's life. When I started working as a paraprofessional, the desire became stronger and I was 100-percent sure that my passion was teaching," Delatorre says. "When I evaluated teacher education programs I made sure to consider the time of the classes and flexibility. I wanted the program to support English language learners. UED professors teach with real-life experience, which gives you a different perspective about education and urban learners. You learned about others' cultures and beliefs, which helps you understand the work."

Metropolitan State's School of Urban Education covers many facets of the current public school makeup in the metropolitan area, with the primary goal of educating teachers who can relate to racially/ethnically and linguistically diverse classroom populations. UED prepares more teachers of color than any other program in the state; currently there are 320 teacher candidates in six licensure programs, and over 50 percent are candidates of color. Currently, over 30 percent of students in Minnesota schools are students of color and American Indian students, yet only 4 percent of their teachers are of color or American Indian. The gap is even wider in many Twin Cities and Greater Minnesota schools with a majority of students of color and American Indian students.

The School of Urban Education at Metropolitan State recruits teacher candidates of color and American Indian teacher candidates and "first-generation college students" who have the potential to provide a more relevant learning atmosphere of high expectations for their students by bringing their own life experiences to the classroom. Future teachers enrolled in the program are able to choose from early childhood education, elementary education, and two content areas for secondary teaching, which include social studies and English.

"Decades of educational research clearly shows the importance and need for K-12 students to have access to teachers of color and American Indian teachers. The challenge is that while many policy makers and postsecondary teacher preparation programs say they understand this important need, they often lack the required political will to implement their words into action," says Dean Antrop-González.

"Fortunately, thanks to the Minnesota Education Equity Partnership and the Coalition to Increase Teachers of Color and American Indian Teachers in Minnesota and their significant work with the state legislature, the tide seems to be turning. This work, however, needs to be sustained over the long term. I am honored to work with a teacher preparation program that understands and works tirelessly with a sense of extreme urgency around this issue."

For more information about the School of Urban Education, contact René Antrop-González, dean and professor of urban education, at rene.antrop-gonzalez@metrostate.edu or (651) 999-5959.

Metropolitan State University, a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, is America's premier university for lifelong learning, providing unsurpassed, competitive academic and professional degree programs at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels while maintaining affordability.

Summer STEM Program Coming to Saint Paul

Ken Torisky
National Inventors Hall of Fame

Camp Invention, a nationally recognized, nonprofit summer enrichment camp program, is coming to Mounds Park Academy the week of **June 25 - June 29, 2018**.

A program of the National Inventors Hall of Fame (NIHF), in partnership with the United States Patent and Trademark Office, Camp Invention challenges children in Grades K-6 to find their "inner inventor" by learning the process of innovation. Using hands-on activities, Camp Invention promotes science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) learning; builds resourcefulness and problem-solving skills; and encourages entrepreneurship — in a fun and engaging environment.

Each year, the program features a new curriculum inspired by some of our nation's most brilliant inventors — the NIHF Inductees. This year's *Fast Forward* curriculum features several video challenges from these Inductees encouraging children to be confident in their ideas and explore their innovativeness. These hands-on activities include: *Optibot*: Campers will launch into the future with their own Optibot — a small self-driving robot that senses changes in light.

Robotic Pet Vet: Throughout this module, campers nurse their robotic puppy back to health and design and build dog

parks as they hammer out ideas for the best park attraction.

Mod My Mini Mansion: Campers will dream up and design their very own futuristic smart home filled with gadgets, LEDs, technology and innovations!

Stick To It: Campers will invent something new every day as they explore what it is like to be a physicist, engineer and entrepreneur. Young innovators will invent, make and craft solutions to real-world challenges by building their own prototypes and discovering that anything is possible.

At the end of the program, each camper will bring home two personalized robots! Learn more about this year's all-new curriculum.

All local Camp Invention programs are facilitated and taught by certified educators who reside and teach in the community. Camp Invention serves more than 140,000 students every year and partners with nearly 1,700 schools and districts across the nation. For additional information or to find a camp near you, visit campinvention.org.

About Camp Invention: Camp Invention is the only nationally recognized summer program focused on creativity, innovation, real-world problem solving and the spirit of invention. Through hands-on programming, Camp Invention encourages children entering kindergarten through sixth grade to explore science, technology, engineering and mathematics curriculum inspired by some of the world's greatest inventors. Since 1990, our education programs have served more than 1.3 million children, and 125,000 teachers and Leadership Interns.

Saint Paul Public Library announces 2018 summer activities for kids and teens

Emily Ganzel
Saint Paul Public Library

Summer 2018 will be a busy one at Saint Paul Public Library (SPPL). *Summer Spark*, SPPL's flagship summer learning program, kicks off on June 1 with engaging activities for kids and teens ages 10-18. Following a successful run last summer, SPPL is partnering once again with the Saint Paul Saints on *Reading Tree*, a special storytime hour hosted by a Saints player, Mudonna, the team's mascot, and a local children's book author.

"Saint Paul Public Library offers a wide variety of summer programming for all ages," said Catherine Penkert, Saint Paul Public Library Director. "*Summer Spark*, our annual summer reading program, encourages kids to have fun, stay active, and keep learning all summer long. This year, we're delighted to offer *Spark Camps*, drop-in activities at several branches through which children can engage in theater, art, and nature activities for several hours per week."

The library's summer activities include: *Summer Spark*: *Summer Spark* encourages kids to have fun, stay active, and keep learning all summer long. Youth participate by attending free events at the library and earning prizes by completing reading and activity challenges. The program runs **June 1 through August 31**. This year, we are excited to offer *Spark Camps* at several branches.

Teen Summer Spark: Teens can participate in *Summer Spark* by reading and rating books of their choice and enter to win great prizes, including a Nintendo Switch.

Reading Tree with the Saints: The St.

Paul Saints & Sprint, in conjunction with SPPL, are bringing their *Reading Tree* series on the road and to a library near you! The Saints will bring along some special guests, like their pink fluffy mascot, Mudonna, a Saints player and a children's book author.

Summer Reads: Keep kids reading throughout the summer with *Summer Reads!* Children will meet with a summer buddy in weekly sessions through the summer to practice reading and play some fun literacy games. *Summer Reads* kicks off on **June 18 and runs through August 2**.

Saturday Live! Join us every Saturday at the George Latimer Central Library for events featuring puppets, magicians, wild animals, storytellers and more! **Available throughout June and July**.

Maker Camps: Maker Camps provide hands-on, drop-in activities for youth ages 8-12. Maker Camps are an opportunity for youth to be engaged and inspired by STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art, and math) concepts. Camps run **July 2 - August 24**.

To help families reduce fines owed, the library will continue to offer *Read Downs* throughout the summer. Kids, teens, and adults reading with kids or teens will earn \$1 off of fines and fees for every 15 minutes spent reading in the library. In partnership with Saint Paul Parks and Recreation, youth can stop by Rondo, Rice Street, and Riverview libraries for free snacks and meals throughout the summer.

Summer Spark is generously supported by: Carl Benson Endowment, Crayola Experience, Dollar General Literacy Foundation, Ecolab Foundation, Elizabeth Biorn Endowment, Ethel Ridgway Endowments, The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, George Latimer Endowment, KARE-11, Kowalski's Markets, MELSA, Minnesota State Fair, Minnesota Twins, Pioneer Press, SeaLife MN, and Star Tribune.

You got somethin' to say? Say it here!

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* welcomes all opinions and neighborhood anecdotes – send yours to: daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Deadline for the July 2018 issue of the *Forum* is June 10, 2018.

View From My Porch: Coffee Shop Conversations - When Left Meets Right

*Sage Holben
Forum Staff*

He asked how we know each other. I had just walked into a Roseville coffee shop when another customer approached me, saying he knew me from somewhere. A few minutes later, memory having been jogged, I asked if we had been in the same St. Paul Citizens Police Academy class several years ago. That was it! He invited me to a conversation, so I set aside my intended work to deepen a casual acquaintanceship.

I don't recall that we had ever had a personal conversation, so I had little knowledge of his background. What was interesting to me was that it was the second such conversation in less than a week.

The first was three days before, when a stranger responded to my phone call and met me to pick up two books he had lost. Over coffee he began talking about his values and sharing his beliefs on the need to own guns, second amendment rights; on immigration laws and immigrants; his admiration of Trump's negotiation skills; and his thoughts on race and religions.

It was quickly apparent that we held few political or social justice views in common; also that he was determined that he was going to share his views. As his voice volume increased, I watched several people grimace, remove their coffee and food items from their tables and move upstairs or outside. Whether it was because of my tablemate's volume or content, I don't know.

I have learned that there are times when people are so entrenched in their beliefs that I am not going to change their mindset with arguing or offering differing viewpoints. That also depends on whether they are simply spouting what they have heard because what they have heard fits with their fears and their unexplored unknowns. I

found much of what my tablemate said to be appalling. When I would ask for clarification of his thought or statement, his voice volume increased; not in anger, but in cementing his foundation of belief. I found the balance of exchange interesting. I learned long ago that when I feel my internal anger and repulsion rising, if I quietly, free of animosity and snarkiness, ask questions in search of clarification and understanding the person's thought background, I will likely receive a relevant answer, and I will retain an inner calmness. Even with that, as I left the coffee shop, I felt utterly exhausted and in wonder at someone holding such hellacious beliefs.

People who have reasoned through beliefs using logic, who have measured and weighed ideas against their fears, emotional reactions, stereotypes, and unknowns, seem to me more likely to listen to a viewpoint totally opposite theirs - perhaps finding common ground by asking questions and considering another's belief and perspective - even accepting it as valid though in opposition. This is what I found in the second conversation.

Possibly through comments and experiences shared in our academy class, this man was aware that we held differing perspectives of potential laws punishing highway protesters to policing policies to immigration rights to political agendas. Yet, when I voiced my opinions, he listened. When I asked questions, he answered. Again, I listened much more than I talked, asking for clarification, how did a value or belief evolve, what would his vision be...

Several times in the conversation I heard the disclaimer "I know we disagree on this, but..." For all that, or because of that acknowledgment, said with respect and without sarcasm, I would sit with him and talk anytime. I learned from him and a well-timed MPR airing by Candace Owens the week before at the Center of the American Experiment, and then a talk by Peter Bell on Tuesday, at the Roseville library. It truly has been a meeting of Left and Right. When not blaming, accusing, berating, or name-calling, we may not change mindsets, but we can better understand why and what another person thinks and believes.

Opinion: In response to last month's letter regarding Listening House

*Marcia Sanoden
Cambric Resident*

This letter is a response to last month's letter to the editor. That letter suggests that all residents of Cambric are threatened by and are negatively impacted by Listening House. The writer adds that he/she is afraid to sign his/her name.

I live at Cambric apartments and regularly volunteer at Listening House. My experience is that with the exception of a few activists in the building, most residents of Cambric come and go without thinking much about Listening House. If I were to confront an average resident in the hallway to ask how they were impacted by Listening House, I would most likely receive an indifferent answer, or even the question "what is Listening House?" The supposed building-wide coordination and cooperation against Listening House simply doesn't exist.

I question that the assumption that syringes, people sleeping on porches, theft, and sexual exposure are coming from Listening House guests. Have these supposed incidents been documented and proven as committed by

guests of Listening House or are they hearsay? If they could be positively linked to Listening House, staff could constructively deal with offenders—by banning them from the premises.

The supposed "daily" encroachment of Listening House guests onto Cambric properties is hearsay. My own bicycle was stolen from a locked locker in the garage and it would be convenient to blame a guest of Listening House, but according to the arresting documents the thief has no connection to Listening House. When there is crime in any neighborhood for any reason, it's never a good thing. But can it all be pinned on Listening House?

Many residents of Cambric utilize government assistance to help pay for their apartments. Without this assistance, we, too, could be homeless. Blaming the homeless seems like a case of the pot calling the kettle black.

Listening House has impacted my life positively. As a regular volunteer, I have gotten to know several guests and we enjoy singing and playing guitar together. I do not consider what I do to be "Christ-centered." Far from it. I get more out of the experience than I give. Listening House has offered me a place of refuge and acceptance that has been lacking in other environments.

I am not afraid to sign my name. Proudly signed, Marcia Sanoden

Opinion: Traffic Calming on East Sixth Street

*T. Strong
East Seventh Street resident*

Thank you for the informative article in May's issue regarding the test closure of East Sixth Street. It is very exciting news that the test closure has been approved by the City of Saint Paul Public Works and will take place in the very near future. I love the idea of a possible "green space" environment extension to the campus of Metro State University. Improving the safe functionality, livability, and residential character of East Sixth Street is a wise step in the direction of "quality of life" evolution.

East Seventh Street is a work in progress. Within a few years, commercial growth has sky-rocketed. Vibrancy and vitality are part of the "new" look of East Seventh Street. Commercial growth has replaced abandoned parking lots and decaying buildings of the past making East Seventh Street an important, upcoming commercial corridor. However, residential growth, as well, has created a lively pedestrian environment in the area. My concern is this: Are there plans to modify East Seventh Street, in order

to accommodate the obvious increase of vehicular flow that is to be expected upon the closing of East Sixth Street?

As it is now, East Seventh Street is a bustling flow of traffic with seemingly little or no restrictions. There are no speed limit signs, and, God bless our traffic law enforcement agents, but their presence needs to be more so, particularly, between Maria Avenue and Arcade. Also, one takes their life into their hands trying to cross this section of East Seventh Street. There is one, unmarked, unlit crosswalk on Bates Avenue. The rapid commercial and residential growth that is taking place on East Seventh calls for a remedy. With the closure of East Sixth Street, the prediction of vastly increased, unchecked vehicular traffic will create a pedestrian's nightmare.

The vitality, vibrancy, and growth of the commercial/residential corridor of East Seventh is a beautiful thing. It would be a shame to ruin the dream, by neglecting to, also, create a pedestrian-friendly environment for shoppers, visitors, students, and residents. Without obvious crosswalks (more than one), speed limitation signs, better lighting, and a clearer presence of traffic enforcement, East Seventh could become another East Sixth of the past.

Thank you for allowing me to express my thoughts on the future of East Seventh Street.

Opinion: Clean up our community

*Brian
Dayton's Bluff Resident*

I'm new to Minnesota, having moved here in September of last year.

It is a truly beautiful state, and as someone who has worked hard with recycling and cleanup initiatives in my home state of New Mexico, I want to do more here where I can.

I have taken to walking my neigh-

borhood in the Dayton's Bluff area and cleaning up trash and recyclables whenever possible. It's especially important after trash pickup days, when there is more trash dropped by trucks and bins.

This isn't hard to do, everyone can do it. Just take an hour out of a day, walk your neighborhood, clean up some trash, recycle what you can, and talk to your neighbors.

I really think this is important. Clean neighborhoods help everyone.

I'm really just asking that we all pitch in when we can to make our communities better.

MOUNDS PARK BARBER STYLISTS



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Judy Lee

The Restorative Process

*Sage Holben
Forum Staff*

In April, I attended a Mass Incarceration Conference at Metropolitan State University, choosing a breakout session on the restorative process, facilitated by Chris Melendez. I am familiar with the restorative justice perspective, having used the St. Paul Dispute Resolution Center when, as a victim of a beating, I met with one of the offenders. The process gave me both closure and perspective.

The restorative process at this conference gave me a different perspective. Chris uses it in the program he has developed at his charter school, in working with students experiencing conflict. The process seemed to me a way of restoring an individual's soul and peace of mind, dealing with whatever demons or inner conflicts one might be housing.

On the floor, within the circle of seated participants, Chris had placed a small, personalized quilt of sorts. On it were a number of curious objects - story cubes, small books, worry dolls, other items that might seem like a collection of toys or game pieces. It reminded me of using dolls or a dollhouse when talking with children who had been abused, keys in unlocking an intimate story.

I thought of how this same process, the selecting and handling of an item while relating the feelings and memories it evoked, used by some to share the hidden fury of hurting others or releasing the pain of being bullied. It could be used in eliciting stories of people I meet and interview, people who are struggling through fragmented lives and searching for answers to their experiences.

Closure and answers are not necessarily synonymous. I find that closure, with its frame of reference, can bring me peace of mind that a solid, factual answer cannot. Such was the case when my bank card was stolen several months ago. The amount the thieves racked up was vital to me for rent and medical insurance, but my credit union restored it and it did not reach a level that the bank, Minneapolis police, or Saint Paul police would prosecute; that was understandable. However, because it was all so local, I wanted to know if the two people who took my card and used it, were people I see throughout the week at local businesses or libraries, perhaps we had even exchanged snippets of conversation. Our Saint Paul police offered me that opportunity and for that, I am thankful.

Closure is sometimes not found in punishing or confronting the wrongdoer...simply putting thoughts to rest and being able to let go.

Sage Holben can be reached at daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

REACH Together receives \$18,000 in grants to support programs

*Sheryl Fried
REACH Together*

REACH Together is pleased to have received \$18,000 in grants this month. The Partners in Justice Board of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet (St.

Paul) awarded \$8,000 for the Basic Needs Program to provide an experienced, bilingual advocate to help refugees with limited English skills by answering questions, translating, reading mail, making phone calls, and completing forms. In addition, the Dollar General Foundation awarded \$10,000 to support the Adult Literacy Program, which prepares adult English learners with life and work skills that prepare them for self-sufficiency and participation in the wider community.

Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign raises over 13.6 million Combined dollars and pounds for Minnesota Food Shelves

*Summer Anthony
Minnesota FoodShare*

Food shelves, community organizations, faith communities, businesses, and individual partners came together during the 2018 March Campaign to raise food and funds in response to food insecurity in Minnesota. 284 food shelves, serving Minnesotans throughout the state, participated in the 36th annual Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign, raising over \$8.1 million and more than 5.5 million pounds of food and items for local food shelves, translating to roughly 35 million meals for Minnesotans.

The first March Campaign was held in 1982, in response to springtime lows in donations to metro food shelves. In following years, the March Campaign grew to be the largest state-wide, grass roots food and fund drive. To increase impact and serve more Minnesotans, while food shelves and community partners raise food and funds throughout March, Minnesota FoodShare raises dollars to fill their FoodFund. The

FoodFund is distributed to March Campaign participating food shelves during late summer, another traditionally low period of giving to food shelves. To date, Minnesota FoodShare has distributed over \$17.2 million to Minnesota food shelves via its FoodFund.

In 2017, Minnesotans visited food shelves 3.4 million times, according to the Minnesota Department of Human Services and Hunger Solutions Minnesota, with one in ten Minnesota households experiencing food insecurity.

"By partnering with local food shelves and communities, we magnify our impact and can increase food shelves' capacity throughout the state, supporting hundreds of thousands of food insecure Minnesotans," says Summer Anthony, Minnesota FoodShare Program Manager.

Minnesota FoodShare is a program of Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches. Since 1982, Minnesota FoodShare has been addressing food insecurity through engagement of Minnesotans in fundraising, education, and advocacy efforts. Through resource-sharing and marketing support, Minnesota FoodShare encourages and strengthens collaborations between food shelves and community organizations, faith communities, businesses, and individual partners. To learn more, visit mnfoodshare.org.

Metropolitan State University celebrates 102nd commencement

*Robert Boos & Poh Lin Khoo
Metropolitan State University*

A classmate's enthusiastic appeal to Metropolitan State University students to seize upon their success and to "make the best out of your struggles" brought the audience of 2,000 to its feet as student Kossi Ayigah addressed the graduating class.

"Many of you sitting here have a story to tell. Throughout our educational journey, we have all overcome many obstacles and life challenges, but we made it," Ayigah said.

Approximately 1,058 students received their bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees this semester, with 785 students participating in Metropolitan State University's 102nd commencement exercises Saturday, April 28, 2018, at the Minneapolis Convention Center. To accommodate Metropolitan State's growing student body, the spring commencement ceremony took place as two programs. The ceremony was livestreamed and is archived for viewing at <https://youtu.be/j6PAjt-FOsIE>.

From French-speaking Togo, Ayigah came to the United States in 2013. As a non-native English speaker, he struggled through his classes at Minneapolis Community and Technical College. Speaking up in class was impossible, raising his hand was a "no-no." He had to search the dictionary for words to understand the context of his reading assignments; it took him nearly three hours to get through five pages. He had yet to learn that growth requires patience. Ayigah's scholarly pursuits demanded even more from him when he transferred to Metropolitan State University in December 2016.

"Along my educational road, life got harder. But regardless of my struggles and what was happening around me, I refused to be discouraged. I woke up every day with my head up, my chest out, a smile on my face, and I made sure that I took advantage of every opportunity," Ayigah told the graduates from the College of Liberal Arts, College of Management, College of Sciences, and the School of Urban Education. His speech can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/Oc3ZP5u0i8o>.

Ayigah graduates with his bachelor's degree in accounting, having won a scholarship from the American Institute of Certified Professional Accountants along the way. He is a recipient of the President's Outstanding Student award, representing the College of Management.

As the ceremonies opened, President Virginia Arthur addressed the graduates with the promise that their preparation at Metropolitan State University has equipped them to become leaders, both in their careers and in their communities. She reminded them that, under Metropolitan State's unofficial credo as the "University without barriers," learning and pursuing a degree is possible in spite of obstacles, and education extends beyond a student's life spent in the classroom.

"As one alumnus recently put it," Arthur said, "We allow students to find their own passion and purpose and help them become lifelong learners, taking responsibility for the direction of their programs of study, and encouraging

their active engagement in their community."

Metropolitan State University first admitted students in 1972. To date, 46,115 students have graduated over its 47 years as a higher education institution. At its founding, there were few options for students who did not fit the traditional mold: recent high school graduates seeking a residential experience. The founders were determined that Metropolitan State should be a "college for those who have no college," and that it would honor the knowledge that learners brought with them to the University. Metropolitan State now enrolls approximately 11,500 students and has a national reputation for innovative programs that empower students.

"Presidents often wish they had a crystal ball to see into the future. But as I stand before you today, and look into your faces, I can see the future—and I see that it is a bright and promising one," President Arthur said.

Aaryka Pederson, President's Outstanding Student award finalist, delivered the afternoon address to the graduates from the College of Community Studies and Public Affairs, the College of Individualized Studies, and the College of Nursing and Health Sciences. Her speech can be viewed at this URL: <https://youtu.be/1OQLFtHs0M0>.

"When you meet a challenge in life, think back to how you persevered while earning your degree and you pulled yourself through. Be proud of yourself and of what you have accomplished," Pederson said. She graduates with summa cum laude honors, with a bachelor's degree in nursing from the College of Nursing and Health Sciences.

"You have already shown how strong you can be by making it here today, and I know that that strength will flow into the rest of your lives, to help empower you to do great things," Student Senate President Heather Moenck said, addressing the graduating classes. "Whether you are going into a new career, graduate school, or just opening up a new chapter of your life, you are influential and powerful. Going forward, do phenomenal things, challenge opinions and create a positive change in the world." Her speech can be viewed at: <https://youtu.be/cOKZMSY-hOJo>.

Outstanding Student honorees recognized at commencement are: Kossi Ayigah, College of Management; Stacy Buschmann-Ford, College of Nursing and Health Sciences; Christopher Sugden, College of Liberal Arts; Cynthia Yoder, College of Sciences; Genevieve Calvillo, College of Individualized Studies; Jennifer Cannon, College of Liberal Arts; Raelene Caswell, College of Community Studies and Public Affairs; Rodrigo J. Sanchez, School of Urban Education; Tess Spence-Sing, College of Community Studies and Public Affairs; Jessica Stewart, College of Nursing and Health Sciences; and Taskin Hague, College of Management.

Metropolitan State University, a member of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system, is America's premier university for lifelong learning, providing unsurpassed, competitive academic and professional degree programs at the bachelor's, master's and doctoral levels while maintaining affordability.

Have Forum, will travel...



Mark Cosimini and Mary Block at the Louvre in Paris, France would rather read the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* than look at Leonardo da Vinci's masterpiece *The Virgin and Child with Saint Anne*. We at the *Forum* support their decision and commend their excellent taste in reading material.

Several readers send us pictures of themselves reading our newspaper on their travels. If you'd like to do the same, please email photos to daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Many thanks to our 2018 donors:

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Karin DuPaul

A group of young neighborhood entrepreneurs selling lemonade on the corner of a block, just down the street from a Minneapolis & St. Paul Home Tour featured property in Dayton's Bluff. The kids said they did very well on Saturday, selling cold lemonade to thirsty home tour visitors for \$1.00 per glass.

Friends of the Forum

Dear Reader,

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* has been a volunteer-run newspaper since the 1980s and has always operated on a minimal budget. Each issue costs around \$1,900 to produce.

For the past three years we have been soliciting donations through our *Friends of the Forum* program. Thanks to the donations of readers like you, we have been able to keep the paper up and running.

If you value this community source of information, please consider filling out the form below. Any amount is appreciated; you may also make memorial donations, or include the *Forum* in your legacy planning.

If you have been our *Friend* in the past, please renew your membership with a donation in 2018. **Our goal for 2018 is \$5,000; thanks to readers like you, we've raised \$2,495 to date – will you help us reach our goal in 2018?**

Sincerely,
 The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum*

Yes, I will become a *Friend of the Forum*. My tax-deductible check is enclosed, for:

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